

# Flood Hazard Risk Reduction and Resiliency Grant Program

Flood Hazard Risk Reduction Grant Program  
<http://www.nj.gov/dep/floodhazard/grants.htm>

Application, Scoring Sheet, and Frequently Asked Questions  
<http://www.nj.gov/dep/floodhazard/grants-guidance.htm>

November 14, 2014 Information Session  
2PM – 4PM  
NJDEP Public Hearing Room  
Trenton, NJ



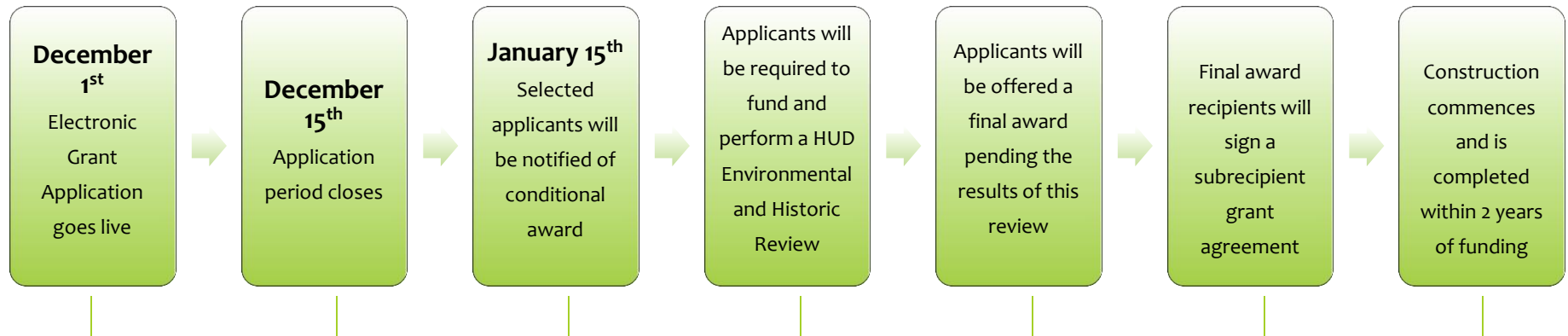
# Flood Hazard Risk Reduction and Resiliency Grant Program

## **Flood Hazard Risk Reduction And Resiliency Grant Program**

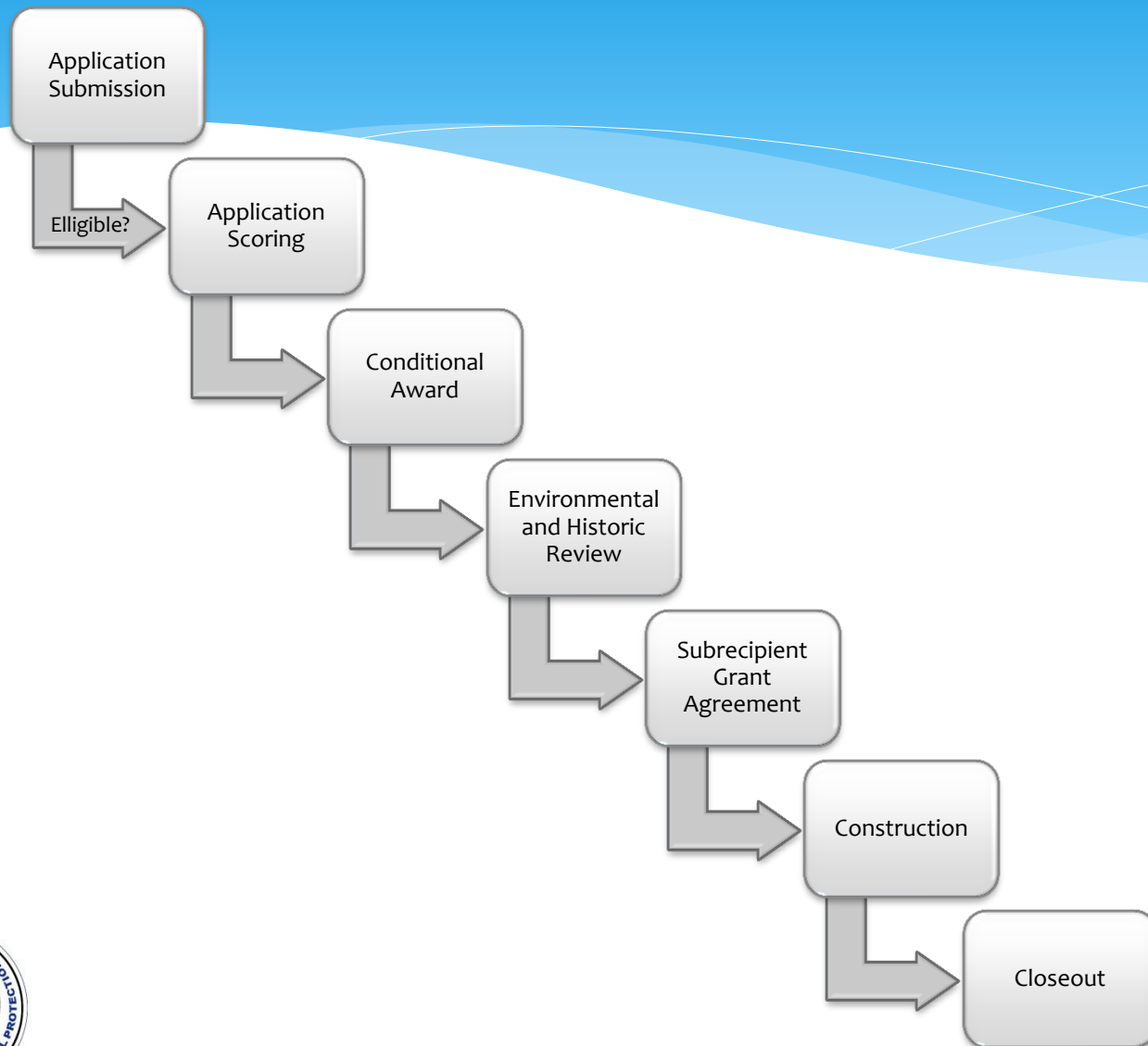
- Funded by the US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
- Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Program
- DEP selects and awards grants to Municipalities/Counties as subrecipients.



# Grant Timeline



# Grant Application Process



# Administrative Program Eligibility

- \* Impacted by Superstorm Sandy
- \* Demonstrate Unmet Need
- \* Applicants
  - \* Municipalities and Counties in Atlantic, Bergen, Cape May, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Union Counties
- \* Eligible Project Types
  - \* Coastal Lakes
  - \* Flood Risk Reduction Infrastructure
  - \* Stormwater Management
  - \* Beneficial Use of Dredge Material



# Eligible Project Types

- \* Answers to specific questions are on the Frequently Asked Questions page grouped by type of project
- \* Beneficial Reuse of Dredge Material – see the Stockton Barnegat study on the DEP website at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/docs/flood/index.html>
- \* Projects must be in response to an impact from Sandy



# Technical Eligibility

## **In order to be scored, projects must:**

- \* Provide flood protection;
- \* Be designed to solve the problem described in the Scope of Work;
- \* Evaluate and incorporate resiliency by considering a range of risks including those from extreme weather events;
- \* Consider nature-based solutions where possible if cost-effective;



# Technical Eligibility - continued

- \* Utilize the NOAA Sea Level rise scenarios to evaluate resiliency enhancements;
- \* Evaluate regional impacts of the project, including water displacement;
- \* Use reasonable Benefit-Cost Analysis assumptions based upon the project design, its location, and the problem being solved; and
- \* Comply with all laws and regulations governing the use of CDBG-DR funds, and state laws and regulations once awarded.





# Application

- \* Paper application currently available on the website is for informational purposes only.
- \* Electronic application will be available on December 1, 2014 at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/floodhazard/grants-guidance.htm>
- \* Application must be **submitted electronically on December 15, 2014. Hard copies submitted by mail.**
- \* Applications can be filled out and edited up to the submission date of December 15, 2014.
- \* Questions regarding the application will be accepted **until November 21, 2014 - via email only** and sent to [Rebecca.Jones@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Jones@dep.nj.gov)
- \* **Answers to questions will be posted on** <http://www.nj.gov/dep/floodhazard/grants-guidance.htm>



# Application - continued

- \* Must complete all sections and provide all requested documentation
- \* Can submit a maximum of three projects per applicant (which means three separate applications with project priority identified, 1 being the highest priority)
- \* If the application contains material deficiencies (without an explanation) and omissions it will be considered ineligible.



# Hard Copy Applications

Must contain signed/sealed plans

Only electronic applications will be considered as complete and submitted by the December 15<sup>th</sup> deadline

Three (3) Hard Copies Must be Submitted to:

NJDEP Office of Flood Hazard Risk Reduction Measures  
501 E. State Street  
P.O. Box 420  
Mail Code 501-01A  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Attn: Rebecca Jones



# Scoring Emphasis

- \* Benefit-Cost Analysis
- \* Flood Protection
- \* Resiliency through the evaluation of Sea Level Rise
- \* Critical Infrastructure Protection
- \* Leveraging other funding sources (e.g. Non-Federal and Non-CDBG funds)
- \* Nature-Based Infrastructure
- \* Shovel-Ready Projects - Constructability, Budget, Capability, and Schedule



# Repetitive Loss and Severe Repetitive Loss Information

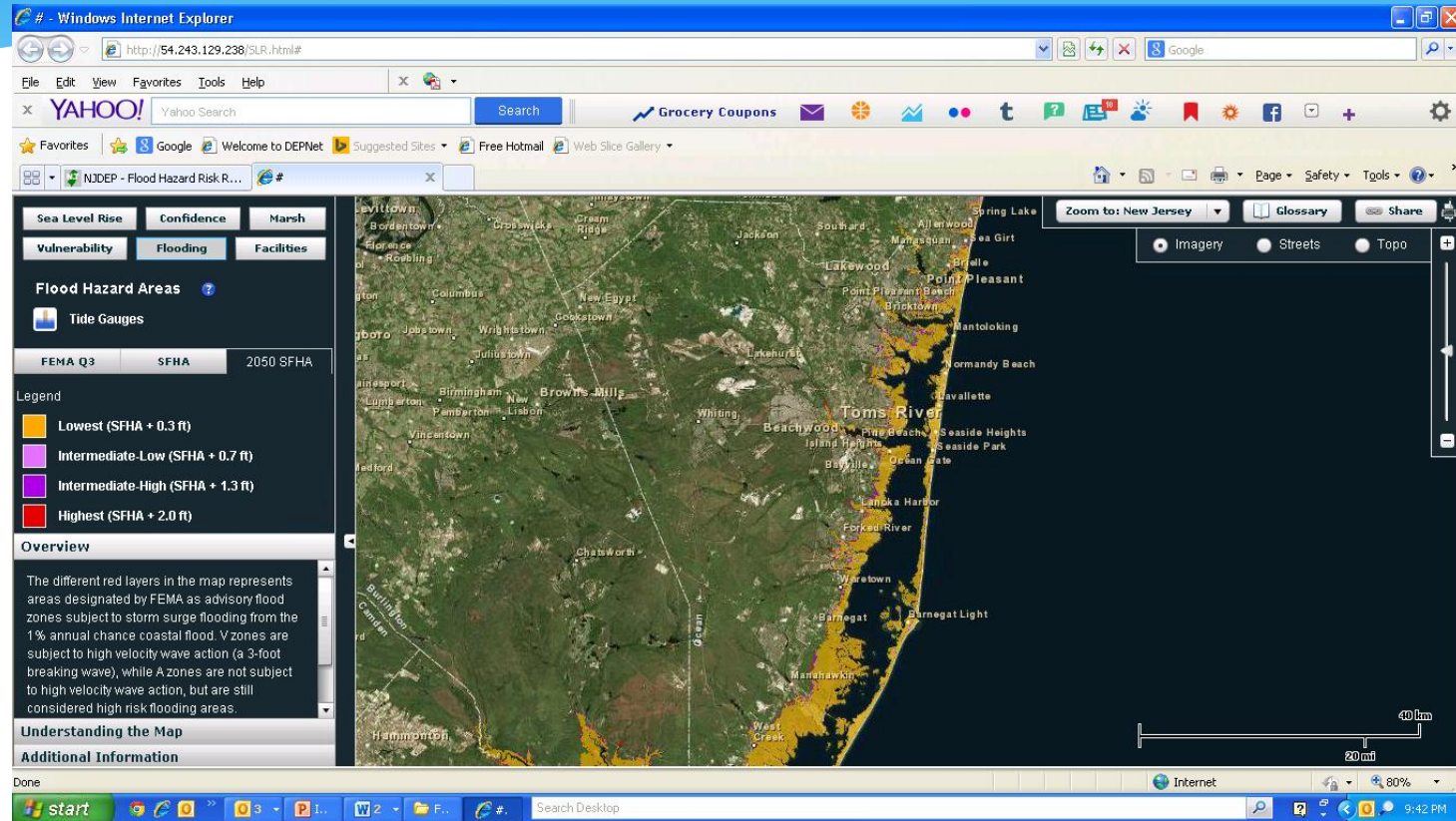
- \* Municipal or County Official must submit a request in writing on official letterhead for the Repetitive Loss (RL) and Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) data request

NJDEP Bureau of Flood Plain Management  
501 E. State Street  
P.O. Box 420 Mail Code 501-01A  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
Attn: Joseph Ruggeri

- \* The official letter needs to specify the intended use for the data, that the data will not be publicly shared and that storage of the data will meet the FEMA Privacy Act security requirements.
- \* Please be aware that this information is protected by FEMA Privacy Policy and can be used only for flood hazard mitigation identification and planning purposes



# 2050 NOAA Sea Level Rise Tool



\* <http://54.243.129.238/SLR.html#>



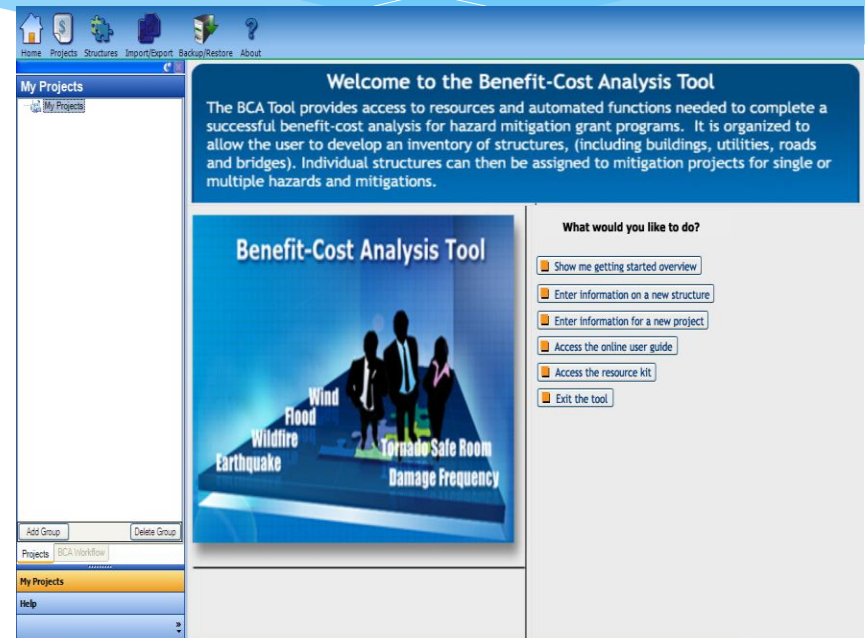
# Sea Level Rise Tool

- \* <http://54.243.129.238/SLR.html#>
- \* Click Flooding Tab
- \* Click 2050 SFHA Tab
- \* Low, Intermediate-Low, Intermediate-High, Highest levels are color coded on the map



# FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Tool 5.0

- \* All projects must be cost-effective
- \* Benefits of the project must outweigh the cost by at least a 1:1 ratio.
- \* Required for BCA:
  - \* Detailed scope of work
  - \* Cost Estimate
  - \* Maintenance Cost
  - \* Flood Loss Damages and Frequency of Event



<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/92923>





# FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Tool 5.0

Which module to use?  
The Flood BCA or the  
Damage Frequency  
Assessment (DFA)  
Module?



## Flood Hazard Mitigation

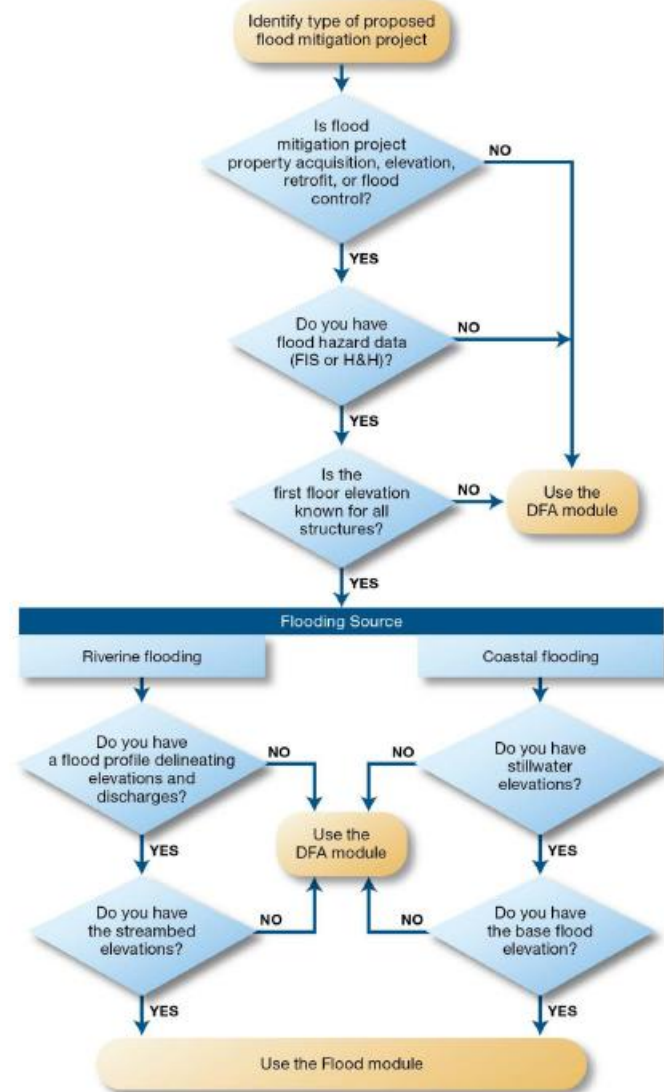


Figure 2.1: Selecting between the DFA and Flood modules for a flood mitigation project

# FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Tool 5.0 (continued)

## Flood BCA Module – Key Inputs

- \* Mitigation Project Type
- \* Mitigation Project Cost
- \* Hazard-Specific Data
- \* Structure Information
  - \* General
  - \* Residential
  - \* Non-Residential
- \* Damages and Losses Avoided
- \* Depth-Damage Functions

***Data used in place of FEMA standards or default values MUST be documented.***

***All data must be obtained from a credible source.***



# FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Tool 5.0 (continued)

## Damage-Frequency Assessment (DFA)

- \* Typically requires the most assumptions and engineering judgment
- \* Provides the most accurate analysis if no hazard data or specific building data are available
- \* Historical damage information is required (updated for inflation to present value)
- \* Performs an analysis based on historical hazard frequency data, damage observations, and engineering judgment



# FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Tool 5.0 (continued)

The DFA Module requires documentation of the following key data:

- \* Value of Services (Roads/Utilities)
- \* Loss of Service Durations
- \* Historical Damages
- \* Loss Event Frequencies
- \* Residual Damages/Losses (Project Effectiveness)

***Must use acceptable documentation from credible and well documented sources.***



# FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Tool 5.0 (continued)

## Acceptable Documentation

- ✓ DOT traffic counts and detour time estimates with maps (roads)
- ✓ Local utility company data indicating number of impacted accounts (utilities)

## Unacceptable Documentation

- ✓ “Ballpark” estimates of traffic counts/detour times without maps (roads)
- ✓ Population/census data not correlated to utility service area (utilities)

## Acceptable Documentation

- ✓ FEMA Project Worksheets/DSRs
- ✓ Insurance or damage repair records from DOT, DPW, utility company
- ✓ Damages estimated based on FEMA standard values

## Unacceptable Documentation

- ✓ Extrapolated damages or service losses
- ✓ Road and utility maintenance costs not tied to damage events
- ✓ Newspaper articles that do not cite credible sources (i.e., other than homeowner accounts)



# FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Tool 5.0 (continued)

## Acceptable Documentation

- ✓ Frequencies linked to documented FIS data
- ✓ USGS stream gauge data or NOAA data
- ✓ Copies of engineering/ technical expert reports
- ✓ Using the unknown frequency calculator with supporting documentation

## Acceptable Documentation

- ✓ Engineering or technical report
- ✓ A detailed project scope that clearly indicates the level of effectiveness
- ✓ Plans or specifications

## Unacceptable Documentation

- ✓ Assuming all recurring damages occur at the 1-year frequency
- ✓ Extrapolated event frequencies
- ✓ Using the unknown frequency calculator with no explanation or supporting documentation

## Unacceptable Documentation

- ✓ Assuming no damages occur after mitigation for non-acquisition projects
- ✓ Poorly-defined project scopes with no clear level of effectiveness



# FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Tool 5.0 (continued)

Remember: ***It is always about risk***, regardless of the hazard

- \* **Good** mitigation projects address ***high- risk*** situations
- \* **Poor** mitigation projects address ***low- risk*** situations



# Leveraged Funds & Funding Sources

**The scoring of leveraged funds discourages the use of grants to fund a match required for a federal Project.**

**Identify all funding sources that the applicant:**

- Has secured
- Has applied to
- Intends to apply to
  
- **Provide the total amount of dollars leveraged**

**Duplication of benefits requirements apply** – applicants will have to certify all funding sources prior to signing a grant agreement. These include:

- Federal funds – FEMA, USACE, etc.
- Insurance
- Non-Profits

**Awards will be adjusted to account for funding received from other sources.**





# Nature-Based Infrastructure

- \* Features that perform engineering functions that enhance resiliency and reduce flooding
- \* Can include living shorelines, wetland enhancement/creation/restoration, bio-swales, rain gardens, wetland stormwater basins
- \* Must be considered where practical, feasible, cost-effective



# Shovel-Ready Projects

- \* Projects must be completed within 2 years of grant funding;
- \* Grant monies can not be used for studies, project design, and feasibility analysis;
- \* Projects must be ready for funding; and
- \* Constructability, Capability, Planning, Schedule and Budget scores measure construction-readiness the ability to complete the project



# Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Preference

- \* 25% of funds must benefit Low and Moderate Income areas.
- \* LMI and non-LMI areas will be scored in the same manner
- \* LMI projects that score average or better than average among all projects scored will be considered for funding
- \* Once 25% of funds are expended to benefit these areas, project awards will proceed according to scoring rank.



# HUD Environmental and Historical Review

- \* Reviews are not part of the application process. They are conducted after Conditional Approval is given.
- \* Assume that costs associated with this review will be entirely paid for by the applicant. If excess funds are available, DEP may consider reimbursement at a later date.
- \* Applicants with Conditional Approvals will perform these reviews with the DEP Sandy Recovery Program in a participatory role
- \* The following information is included in this presentation so that applicants are aware of these requirements when they completing the application and determining the total cost of the project





# New Jersey Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Flood Hazard Risk Reduction and Resiliency Grant Program Environmental and Historic Preservation Review Protocol



# Environmental and Historic Preservation Review Requirements

- CDBG-DR federal grant funding requires compliance with NEPA, HUD 24 CFR Part 58; and 36 CFR art 800, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- All HUD funded projects are required to undergo an environmental review to evaluate environmental impacts. The analysis includes both how the project can affect the environment and how the environment can affect the project, site, and end users.
- **Environmental reviews** for this program **will be performed by a consultant retained by the applicant.**
- **NJDEP will facilitate internal and external consultations and HUD certification.**



# Level of Review Determination

Described in 24 CFR Part 58 HUD Environmental Review

## Environmental Assessment (EA) – Potential Outcomes

- "Finding of No Significant Impact" (**FONSI**) – If a FONSI is the outcome, the public must be given an opportunity to review the decision before project funds can be released.
- "Finding of Significant Impact" (**FOSI**) – Level of review must be elevated to a Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

## Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) –

The purpose of an EIS is to assess "any alteration of environmental conditions or creation of a new set of environmental conditions, adverse or beneficial, caused or induced by the action or set of actions under consideration, and the alternatives to such action or group of actions."

- If an EIS is required, the time required to complete the process may be too protracted to allow participation.

# Environmental and Historic Preservation Review Structure

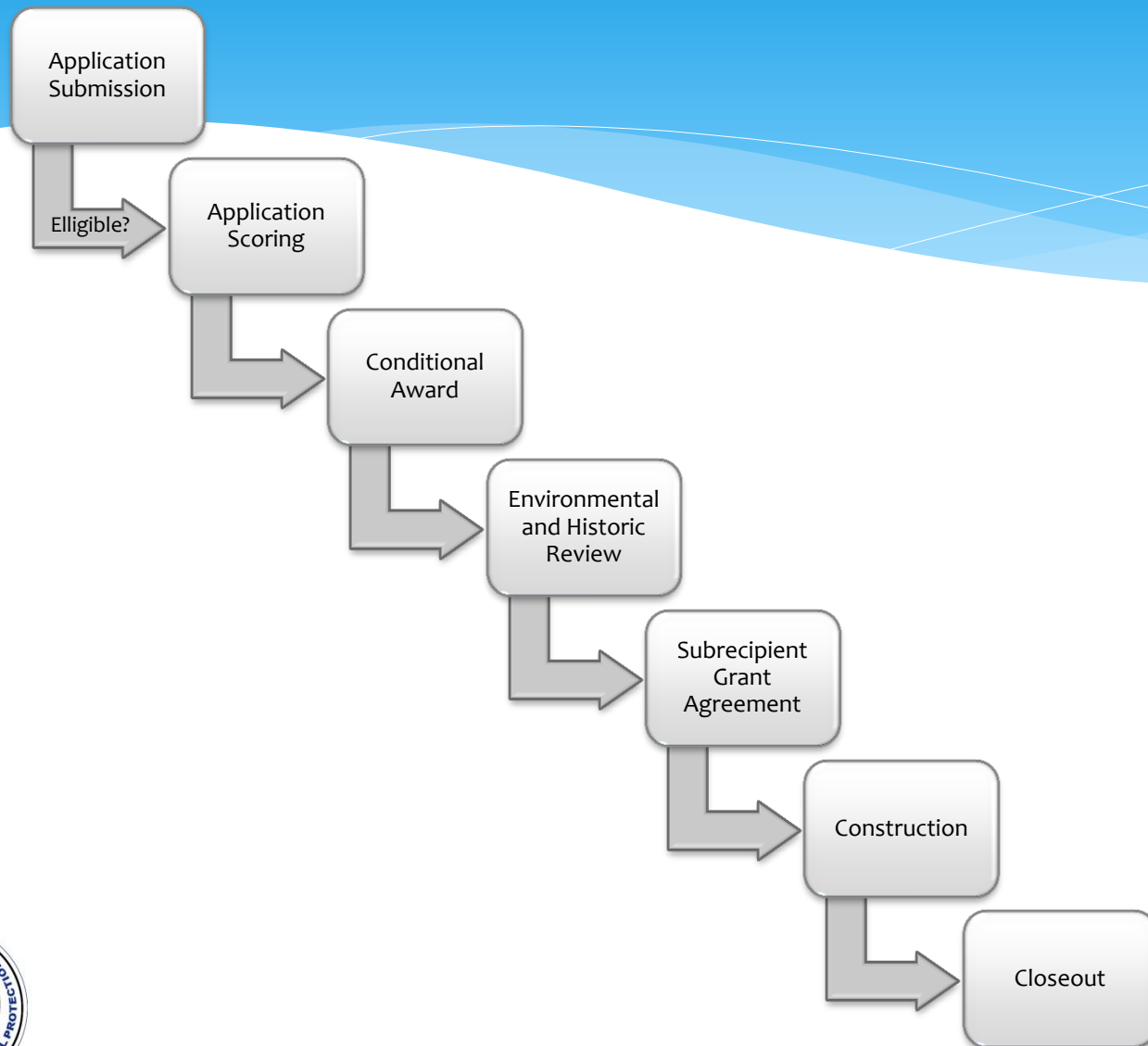
- **Tasks to be Performed by Applicant's Consultant:**
  - Perform environmental review.
  - Determine level of environmental review and submit to DEP's Program Manager for confirmation.
  - Identify federal entity consultation requirements to DEP within 10 days of the determination of environmental review; include timeline of submittal of consultation letters.
  - Draft consultation letters to federal agencies for signature of Director, Sandy Recovery EHP Director.
  - Forward consultation letters or emails to consulting agency.
  - Complete 5-step and 8-step Floodplain and Wetlands Analysis as applicable.
  - Publish Notice of Intent to Release Funds and Finding of No Significant Impact in English and Spanish (municipality could choose to publish notice).
  - Respond to public comments (municipality could choose to publish notice).
  - Amend environmental review if project scope is amended in response to comments



# Environmental and Historic Preservation Review Structure

- **Tasks to be Performed by [NJDEP](#):**
  - Coordinate environmental review and permit requirements through a project coordination meeting within 2 weeks of conditional grant award. Meeting includes Office of Permit Coordination, Sandy EHP, applicant and applicant's consultant.
  - Anticipate providing the consultant with DEP's GIS screening tools and CEST and EA guidance document.
  - Confirm consultant's determination of level of environmental review
  - Review and execute consultation letters or emails drafted by consultant for consultant processing. Drafts to be sent via email.
  - Signing off on behalf of the RE on the consultation request to federal agencies including but not limited to USF&WS, State Historic Preservation Office, and EPA.
  - Perform a quality assurance review by DEP's Program Manager and DEP QA team.
  - Submit the completed ERR to DCA for signature of the RE.
  - Facilitate the transfer of publication affidavits to DCA.
  - Received Authorization to Use Grant Funds from DCA and provide to grantee's consultant and grantor to finalize the ERR.

# Grant Application Process



# REMINDER

Check this website regularly

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/floodhazard/grants-guidance.htm>

For Updates, Frequently Asked Questions, Contact Information, Information on Deadlines



# Questions?

Questions on the grant program must be submitted in writing by November 21, 2014 and must be emailed to [rebecca.jones@dep.nj.gov](mailto:rebecca.jones@dep.nj.gov)

Contact information for questions regarding the electronic application will be posted on the website on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

